

**MINUTES OF THE
NATIVE AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE**

Thursday, May 1, 2014 – 9:00 a.m.

Paiute Tribal Headquarters, 440 N Paiute Drive, Cedar City, UT 84721

Members Present:

Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell, Senate Chair
Rep. Jack R. Draxler, House Chair
Sen. Patricia W. Jones
Sen. Stuart C. Reid
Rep. Kay L. McLiff
Rep. Marie H. Poulson
Rep. Angela Romero
Rep. Douglas V. Sagers

Members Absent:

Sen. Luz Robles
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

Staff Present:

Mr. Michael E. Christensen, Director
Ms. Patricia Owen, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Phalin L. Flowers, Administrative Assistant

Note: A copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Draxler called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m. Sen. Robles, Rep. Noel, and Rep. Wheatley were excused from the meeting.

MOTION: Sen. Van Tassell moved to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2013 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Chair Draxler and Sen. Van Tassell thanked members of the Paiute Tribe of Utah for allowing the committee to meet with the Tribe.

3. Introductions

Members of the committee introduced themselves and the districts they represent. Committee staff introduced themselves.

The following members of the Paiute Tribe of Utah introduced themselves:

Ms. Gari Lafferty, Paiute Tribe Chairwoman
Ms. Corrina Bow, Kanosh Band Chairwoman
Ms. Jetta Wood, Shivwits Band Chairwoman
Ms. Jeanine Borchardt, Indian Peaks Band Chairwoman
Ms. Lora Tom, Cedar Band Chairwoman
Ms. Toni Pikyavit, Koosharem Band Acting Chairwoman

Each chairwoman gave an overview of the band she represents and where each band is located.

Sen. Evan Vickers and Rep. John Westwood, who both represent districts in the Cedar City area, introduced themselves.

4. Presentation of 2014 General Session S.J.R. 1, “Joint Resolution on Museum Recognizing Atrocities Against American Indians”

Sen. Reid gave an overview of S.J.R. 1. He explained how the idea for the resolution was started and said the resolution will be sent to specific individuals, including the President of the United States, state legislative leaders, and recognized American Indian tribes in the United States, along with a letter that will encourage each party to work together to create a museum that will recognize atrocities against American Indians.

5. Topics of Concern

Members of the committee and the tribal leaders discussed success stories and challenges the Paiute Tribe faces in education, including a decline in the use of the Paiute language, graduation rates, tutoring needs, and the lack of curriculum on the history and culture of the Tribe.

The committee recessed at 10:45 a.m.

The committee reconvened at 10:58 a.m.

Mr. Gaylord Robb, Director of Economic Development, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, gave an update on economic development projects that each band is currently working on. He also gave an overview of the Intergovernmental Internship Cooperation program that Southern Utah University supports along with the Tribe. Mr. Robb also summarized the Tribe’s Section 17 Corporation, which allows the Tribe to receive outside funding sources, but also protects the Tribe’s assets from corporate assets.

Ms. Michele Lefebvre, Tribal Health Director, and Mr. Allen Pitts, Health Services Supervisor, gave an overview of health care for the Paiute Tribe. They explained that the Tribe was recently awarded a federal grant that has helped increase health care resources for the Tribe, as well as the Tribe’s efforts with wellness programs and preventive care. Mr. Pitts summarized the Tribe’s partnership with area pharmacies to provide medications to tribal members and others in the area. Ms. Lefebvre noted challenges the Tribe faces in getting tribal specific health care data and spoke of the need for assistance with grant writing.

6. Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Romero moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Draxler adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.